

***Needham
Youth
Services***

***Patrick C. Forde
Good Person
Memorial Award***

***Award Ceremony
2017***

Kate Findlen



Kate is a single mom who lost her husband to cancer over nine years ago. She lost her mother to cancer in 2015 and is a cancer survivor herself. Kate became active in The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life soon after her husband's cancer diagnosis.

Kate has been the chair of the *"Survivorship and Caregivers Committee"* for the Needham/Dedham/Wellesley, MA Chapter of Relay of Life for the last few years.

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life event is a life-changing experience that gives everyone in communities across the globe a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. Each year hundreds of middle school and high school students in Needham participate in Relay and, thanks to volunteers like Kate, tens of thousands of dollars are raised to help fund important cancer research.

Kate is also active in the Needham High School Friends Of Music volunteer parent organization, serving as Vice President for three years and now as President. Kate has been described as having a high "loyalty quotient," when she chooses an organization to support, she's all in. She jumps in with both feet doing anything from picking up pizza to pulling together a major fundraiser like the Friends of Music Winterfest event. Her commitment to not only her daughter, but all of the students in the music program, is commendable. "It is always all about the kids," says Kate.

Kate is an active, hardworking and caring mother of two, Bridget and Katherine. She works full time and travels, but is still able to find time to volunteer for causes that are important to her. Needham is certainly a better place thanks to Kate Findlen and the many youth in our community who she has mentored.

**Patrick C. Forde
Good Person Memorial
Award Ceremony
January 23, 2017**

♦ **Introductory Remarks**

Jon Mattleman, Needham Youth Services

♦ **Welcome**

Patricia Forde, Patrick Forde's Wife

♦ **Presentation of Award to Kate Findlen**

Karen Mullen

Jon Mattleman

♦ **Citation from the House of Representatives**

The Honorable Denise Garlick, State Representative

♦ **Remarks from our Recipient**

Kate Findlen

♦ **Closing Remarks**

Jon Mattleman

**Musical performance by
Needham High School's Fermata Nowhere**

Please join us after the ceremony for refreshments

Patrick C. Forde

Good Person Memorial Award

In 2005, Needham resident and community activist Patrick Forde passed away unexpectedly at the age of 51. Patrick was a person who cared deeply about Needham youth and families. Patrick was best known for being a "good person." Patrick was extremely supportive of the work of Needham Youth Services and understood the importance of families and of the healthy growth of youth. In an effort to honor Patrick, this award was established in 2007 by Needham Youth Services and has been given annually to a Needham resident who embodies his spirit. This award recognizes an adult in the community who has helped make Needham a better place to live through his/her volunteer work and commitment. The recipient is a person of high character, a person who has contributed in a significant way to Needham children, youth, and/or families, and a person who has enhanced the lives of those with whom they interact. This award is a recognition that through volunteerism and caring, each person in our community is able to enhance Needham. Please visit the "Forde Award" website: www.needhamma.gov/youth/fordeaward

2017 Award Recipient: Kate Findlen
2016 Award Recipient: Colleen Schaller
2015 Award Recipient: Louis Condon
2014 Award Recipient: Steve Blomberg
2013 Award Recipient: Bob Timmerman
2012 Award Recipient: Candace W. Chase
2011 Award Recipient: John Hrones
2010 Award Recipient: Bill Dermody
2009 Award Recipient: Clyde "Solar Sam" Weihe
2008 Award Recipient: Connie Barr
2007 Award Recipient: Richard Remnitz

NEEDHAM YOUTH SERVICES

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